DNMM Text-Only Newsletter – July 2024

**Article 1: ADA Picnic Reminder**

The Americans with Disabilities Act Celebration Picnic: July 17th

Join us for a FREE community picnic celebrating the 34th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). On this day, we’ll celebrate this important civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life, including jobs, schools, and transportation – ensuring that people with disabilities have the same rights and opportunities as everyone else.

• WHEN •

Wednesday, July 17 from 4 – 7 pm

• WHERE •

Haithco Park, 2121 Schust Road in Saginaw

• WHAT •

**﻿**Live Music by Stone Street Revival, Food, Fun and Games, and Accessible Recreation

We'll also have partner tables for organizations throughout the area providing valuable resources and information.

While registration is not required, knowing how many people plan to attend helps in our event planning and budgeting. Please take a quick moment to let us know how many people will be attending with you by using the link below.

<https://www.dnmm.org/ada/#ada-registration>

**Article 2: Inclusion Day at Dow Diamond**

Join us for Inclusion Day on Sunday, July 28th!

The Loons and Corteva Agriscience host Inclusion Day to bring together every demographic possible, serving as outreach to our community partners and non-profit organizations who support inclusion activities within the Great Lakes Bay Region.

Join us for a post-game All-Star exhibition featuring our friends from the Great Lakes Miracle League and the Middle of the Mitt Miracle League. Kids eat free and run the bases!

To make the game more accessible, Dial-A-Ride has extended its hours that day to make sure transportation isn’t a barrier! Riders wishing to attend Inclusion Day must schedule their ride ahead of time. After 2:30 pm, riders must be people with disabilities or seniors. The last pick-up will be 5:50 – 6:10 pm.

Call now to schedule your ride to this event! (989) 837-6940

**Article 3: Planning for an Emergency**

Are you prepared to handle an emergency situation? Do you have a plan?

Disability Network Mid-Michigan is excited to once again offer MY3P (My Personal Protection Plan) - an emergency preparedness series that will help you Make a Plan, Build a Kit, and Be Informed.

Session dates and topics are:

July 15, 4-6 pm Part One: Creating My Action Plans and Support Network

July 22, 4-6 pm Part Two: Creating My Go Kit and Evacuation Plan and Assistive Technology For Your Go Kit

July 29, 4-6 pm Part Three: Advanced Care Directives and Personal Safety

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All sessions are FREE and will be conducted virtually on Zoom. Participants will be given flash drives with all the essential resources to customize their plan. Class size is limited so register now!

<https://www.dnmm.org/independent-living-skills/#my3p>

**Article 4: July is Disability Pride Month**

Disability Pride Month commemorates the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act in July 1990, a historic milestone in advancing the rights of all people with disabilities. Since then, Disability Pride Month has become a celebration of the unique experiences, strengths, and achievements of people with disabilities. It is also a time to recognize that people with disabilities often face discrimination or marginalization based on their disability, race, gender, sexual orientation, or other intersecting factors.

Disabilities are a beautiful and natural part of human diversity, and we strive to create an inclusive and accessible society that enables people with disabilities to live fulfilling lives and participate in their communities.

**A History of Disability Pride**

**1990:** Boston held the first Disability Pride Day, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law on July 26, 1990. Disability Pride Month was created to annually celebrate the passage of this historic civil rights law.

**2004:**The first Disability Pride Parade was held in Chicago in 2004. Since then, Disability Pride events have been held across the country and internationally in South Korea, Norway, the U.K., and more.

**2006:** The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) was adopted in December 2006 to provide international standards of protection for the civil, cultural, economic, political, and social rights of persons with disabilities on the basis of inclusion, equality and non-discrimination.

**2015:** New York Mayor Bill de Blasio declared July as Disability Pride Month in celebration of the ADA's 25th anniversary. This declaration marked the first official recognition of Disability Pride Month.

**2019:**The Disability Pride Flag was created by Ann Magill, a woman with a disability, and each color symbolizes a different part of the disability community.

**2022:** Governor Gretchen Whitmer declares July 2022 as Disability Pride Month in Michigan, which marks the first official recognition of Disability Pride Month by the State of Michigan.

Read this article for ways to participate in Disability Pride Month!

<https://enablingdevices.com/blog/8-ways-to-celebrate-disability-pride-month-2023/>

**Article 5: Celebrate the 34th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)!**

Disability Network Mid-Michigan proudly celebrates the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) 34th Anniversary. On July 26th we commemorate this important civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life, including jobs, schools, transportation, and all public and private places that are open to the general public. The purpose of the law is to make sure that people with disabilities have the same rights and opportunities as everyone else.

Join us at our free community event in Saginaw on Wednesday, July 17 as we celebrate the anniversary.

Click to learn more about the history of the ADA <https://adata.org/ada-timeline>

**Article 6: Storytime**

Join Disability Network Mid-Michigan at the library for a story, craft, and Q&A where kids can ask questions about people with disabilities and learn how to be their friend!

Coleman Area Library, 111 1st Street, Coleman: July 2nd 10:30 am

Veterans Memorial Library, 301 S. University Avenue, Mount Pleasant: July 26th 10:30 am

**Article 7: Thank You Goodwill**

Thank you to Goodwill Industries of Mid-Michigan for their donation from the Round Up program. When you round up your purchase to the next dollar you help generate additional funds that are shared with partner agencies like Disability Network Mid-Michigan to ensure resources they need are available. Your change helps change someone's life!

**Article 8: Statement of Inclusion**

Inclusion is a universal human right for all people, regardless of race, age, gender, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or any other discernible quality. To be inclusive is to promote a sense of belonging, respect, and value for who you are as a person. It is about equal access and opportunities for everyone. Inclusion is an integral part of our Independent Living philosophy and of our agency's vision of accessible and inclusive communities.

DNMM offices have been, and continue to be, places of solace, understanding, and information for all. We are committed to promoting and protecting diversity and inclusion, within our offices, among our community partners, and throughout the 15 Centers for Independent Living in Michigan.

**Article 9: Accessibility Statement**

DNMM advocates for the removal of barriers to independence and full inclusion of people with disabilities throughout the Mid-Michigan area. DNMM pledges to ensure accessibility. Each year, DNMM conducts a review of its own architectural, environmental, attitudinal, employment, communication, transportation, and other barriers that may exist that prohibit full access to our services.

If you have any issues or concerns regarding the accessibility of DNMM services and facilities, we encourage you to share that information with us.

Please send your concerns or suggestions to:

Executive Director

Disability Network Mid-Michigan

1705 S. Saginaw Road

Midland, MI 48640

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Disability Network Mid-Michigan provides services in Alcona, Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Iosco, Isabella, Midland, Ogemaw, Roscommon, and Saginaw counties.

989-835-4041

dnmm.org

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